



Hector De La Torre

News Release

Assembly Member 50th District

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De La Torre's Felony Disqualification Passes the Assembly Elections Committee Unanimously

AB 2092 will prohibit persons convicted of corruption from holding elected office

Sacramento, CA- Assembly Bill 2092 aims at closing a loophole in current law that allows individuals convicted of various crimes involving corruption and fraudulence to hold political office.

Assembly Bill 2092, sponsored by Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley, passed the Assembly Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committee unanimously it will be heard next in the Assembly Public Safety Committee in April.

Assemblymember De La Torre cited his experience fighting corruption in South Gate and wants to ensure that protections be adopted to prevent corruption from being repeated in other communities in California.

The bill helps maintain the integrity and accountability of public officials. Under current law, individuals may petition to have their convictions expunged in order to have some of their rights reinstated once they have fulfilled their probation conditions.

Under current law, crimes that prohibit an individual from holding public office are limited to a few serious offenses, including bribery, misuse of public funds, conflict of interest, voter fraud by a public official, and embezzlement of public funds.

"An expungement is not a subsequent finding of innocence—it is merely a restoration of some rights to the offender after successful completion of probation," said Assemblymember De La Torre. "Current law is silent as to whether or not an expungement allows a person convicted of crimes involving bribery and/or voter fraud the right to hold public office."

Background

Assemblymember De La Torre has long championed strong ethics reform within government. In 2004, he authored Assembly Bill 11 which reduces unethical practices by city councils by limiting the amount that city councilmembers may pay themselves for sitting on a commission, committee, board, authority, or similar body.

In addition, he authored Assembly Bill 2753 that prohibits a recalled elected official from spending or taking an action that would commit to expend city funds between the time that the recall election is completed and the date on which the election results are certified. It passed unanimously, on consent.